Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 084903 ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 COME-00 EB-08 LAB-04 SIL-01 /069 R

DRAFTED BY:AF/I:LPSLEZAK
APPROVED BY:AF:WEDMONDSON
AF/I:WHLEWIS
AF/S:WEATON

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R 150232Z APR 77 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG IMMEDIATE INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN AMEMBASSY PRETORIA AMCONSUL DURBAN

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CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, PINT, SA, US

SUBJECT: US SUBSIDIARY KELLOGG CHARGE OF VICTIMIZING TRADE UNIONISTS

REF: JOHANNESBURG 0841

- 1. AF LABOR ADVISOR DISCUSSED REPORT OF KELLOGG SA FIRINGS FOR TRADE UNION ACTIVITY WITH HARRY BOESCH OF KELLOGG US.
- 2. BOESCH AWARE OF REPORTED FIRINGS, ALTHOUGH NOT OF WORLD ARTICLE. BOESCH STATED NBC RADIO HAD MADE BRIEF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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REFERENCE TO FIRINGS FOR ALLEGED UNION ACTIVITY DURING APRIL 8 NEWSCAST. STORY HEARD ONLY ONCE WITH NO APPARENT FOLLOW-UP. KELLOGG US SEEKING TAPE OF BROADCAST BUT HAS NOT YET RECEIVED FULL TEXT.

3. FOLLOWING NBC REPORT KELLOGG US CALLED KELLOGG SA FOR DETAILS. WERE INFORMED THAT WHILE WORK-RELATED FIRINGS

OCCUR FROM TIME TO TIME THERE HAVE BEEN NO RPT NO FIRINGS FOR TRADE UNION ACTIVITY. BOESCH OF OPINION CLAIMED FIRINGS WERE WORK-RELATED AND FOLLOWED STANDARD COMPANY PROCEDURE OF PRIOR WARNINGS AND PROBATIONARY PERIOD. ADDED THAT COMPANY RULES REQUIRE THAT ALL DISMISSALS BE

FOR CLEARLY-STATED CAUSE AND TAKE PLACE IN PRESENCE OF WORKS COMMITTEEMAN TO AND THROUGH WHOM DISMISSED EMPLOYEE MAY APPEAL. BOESCH THUS ASSUMED COMMITTEEMAN PRESENT AT REPORTED FIRINGS. VIEWS REPORT THAT FIRINGS RESULT OF UNION ACTIVITY AS FALSE AND AS DELIBERATE ATTEMPT TO CREATE INCIDENT WHICH WOULD FOMENT LABOR UNREST IN SA AND ADVERSE PUBLICITY IN US.

- 4. BOESCH SAID REED KRAEMER, AFRICAN NEWS SERVICE TO 35 US RADIO STATIONS, ALSO TELEPHONED REQUESTING INFO ON REPORTED FIRINGS. RECEIVED ESSENTIALLY SAME ANSWER AS ABOVE.
- 5. PLEASE INFORM OF SUBSEQUENT DEVELOPMENTS. VANCE

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Event:
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